

CHAPTER XXXIX.

"And what do they say!" Linda exclaimed, growing pale, and clutching at the nearest chair to support herself.

"I think, perhaps," the man responded cautiously, thus driven to bay.

temporary absence of both attendants forced her way, against the doctor's orders, into his grace's room, and administered to him a dose of medicine from a bottle she carried in her own pocket. On the return of

Bloomsbury. Private detective
was noised abroad, had been set by
duke to watch this gay Lothario
relations with his too lively duchess
and the result of the watching
been—well—ah—sounfavourable!

All will yet be cleared up. American friends have perfect confidence in your speedy acquittal."

Yet the mere accusation itself is enough to strike any woman down.

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SUICIDE OF GENERAL BOULANGER.

At a quarter past 12 o'clock on Wednesday General Boulanger committed suicide by shooting himself at the grave of Madame de Bonnemain, in the cemetery of Ixelles, just outside Brussels. For some days past he had been extremely depressed, and at the house in the Rue Montoyer, where he was staying, considerable anxiety was felt on his account. On more than one occasion of late he has attempted to make away with himself. So far as could be managed, all around him kept out of his reach, and nothing is known as to how he contrived to conceal the revolver with which he took his life. When Madame de Bonnemain, with whom during the last few years the general had been so intimately associated, was buried, not many weeks ago, Boulanger was heard to exclaim, in solemn tones, "A revolver, a bullet! (Good-bye; we shall meet again soon.)" It has since been his custom every day, at four o'clock in the afternoon, to go to the cemetery and deposit on the grave of the woman to whom he had been so deeply attached either a bouquet or wreath. His relatives and the servants at his residence were surprised on Wednesday to see him start for the cemetery in a carriage, drawn by two horses at the early hour of 10. At the gate of the cemetery he left the carriage, and walked straight to the part of the grounds where a blue headstone, surmounted by a broken column, indicated the last resting place of Madame de Bonnemain. There he remained in silent contemplation for some little time. One of the tomb recently decorated with wreaths, laid there only two or three days ago, bore the words, "A bientôt, Marguerite." Though exceedingly discreet, General Boulanger did not by his demeanour excite suspicion on the part of his servants or of the cemetery attendants. He had been walking about in the grounds for an hour and a half, when the fatal shot was heard.

GENERAL BOULANGER.

With all possible speed the general's servants and the cemetery officials ran to the spot. They found the general stretched upon the ground, and by his side a revolver of large calibre, which had just been discharged. A wound in the right temple and another in the left about an inch apart, had caused the fatal result through the brain of the deceased, and it was evident that death had been instantaneous. No cry was heard or other sound, except the report of the pistol shot. The police were immediately communicated with, and the body was conveyed to the central police station in a hearse. The general's private landlady, the remains were laid in the bottom of the carriage, the face being covered with a white handkerchief. The formality of identification having been gone through, the body was taken to the house in which the general had occupied rooms. It seems that when General Boulanger's niece, who, with her husband, was staying at the same house, saw her uncle at that morning her suspicions were aroused. She accordingly sent a special messenger to M. Alfred Dutens, who was an intimate friend of the deceased, to request him to follow the carriage to the cemetery with all possible haste. M. Dutens, in response to this appeal, at once drove out to Ixelles, only, however, to find the general already dead. An examination of the papers found in the general's writing desk revealed the fact that he had made his will, and had even prepared a number of telegrams, all duly addressed to the persons to whom they should be sent.

According to another account, M. Dutens, who came from Paris on a visit to General Boulanger, some eight days ago, received a letter warning him that his friend was on the point of committing suicide. He reached the cemetery very shortly after the latter, with him for about an hour, and found him in a state of collapse. He collected that his suspicions were disarmed. Finally the general pulled out his watch and remarked that it was time to go back to town and déjeuner. He added that before returning he desired to spend only a few moments longer at the tomb of Madame de Bonnemain. Completely overcome by the general's collapse, M. Dutens hurriedly withdrew. He had not left his friend more than a minute or two when the latter, having seated himself in front of Madame de Bonnemain's tombstone, took off his hat, and, placing a revolver to his temple, pulled the trigger, with the fatal result already described. The body, which had lain out in a state of decomposition, was found in a state of decomposition. The wounds in the temple are concealed by a white bandage. The features are quite composed. Outside the residence a considerable crowd was stationed all the afternoon, and the tragic event is the universal topic of conversation. The decline of General Boulanger, the deceased general's mother, is still under the belief that her son started upon a pleasure trip. The general left a letter for her, saying that he was going to a fête, and, for a long time after reading this letter, Madame Boulanger continued to talk to the support of her son, frequently expressing the hope that "Ernest" was enjoying himself, and that he would come back less than he had been for some time past. It is stated that at a quarter past 7 o'clock the other morning General Boulanger, who was already up and dressed, said to his valet, "Should any one call for me to-day, tell him to come back again to-morrow." The telegrams found on the writing-table of the deceased were in his own handwriting. They included messages conveying the news of his death to his wife and two daughters. It appears that shortly after the death of Madame de Bonnemain the general's wife wrote to him offering to forgive him for all the past, and to share his exile. This touching letter was never answered. Towards the end of August General Boulanger went one day to the Ixelles Cemetery, and after a violent outburst of grief at the tomb of Madame de Bonnemain, he laboriously carved on the plinth before the newly-erected grave-stone, with his pocket-knife, the words which seem to have been constantly uppermost in his mind, "A bientôt Marguerite." From that day he never was the same man. He became extremely emaciated and haggard-looking, and, but for his characteristic bearing, might have been mistaken for a beggar. It is difficult to recognize the ex-war minister in the thin, pale, and almost unrecognizable figure of the man who was once one of the most popular features of the century, and who was

GENERAL BOULANGER.

notwithstanding his reduced circumstances, included a coachman and footman, two valets de chambre, two femmes de chambre, and three cooks. About a week ago the general presented his portrait to the chef as a "token of affection." The chef in which the body lies is surmounted by a publican's emblem, and the energy with which he urged the expulsion of the Princes from France, albeit that he had written, as was afterwards proved, to the Duc d'Aumale, his superior officer, in terms of the warmest gratitude at the time when he had been promoted to the rank of brigadier-general. It was about this period that General Wolsley, speaking at a Horse Guards' mess, referred to Boulanger as follows: "It is evident that the French army has at last found a Minister of War who is working resolutely and passionately, and who has given us more than one excellent example worthy of being followed. He is keeping public opinion in France constantly on the alert; and we may say that he is a source of real anxiety to the Germans. He is not, perhaps, the man of the last button on the gaiter, like one of his imperial predecessors, but he is certainly quite equal to the responsibility of his position, and we can clearly foresee that his country will be indebted to him for the reorganisation of her army." So far his career, although it displayed much of the

which in the popular mind is connected with his black charger and his famous display at the Longchamps review, had certain elements of success and of glory. Then came the fatal bid for supremacy which, though for a time it added to his fame, eventually prepared the way for his downfall. From an energetic Minister he aspired to be a Socialistic dictator and a representative of the policy of Bonaparte, appealing to the Radical party and of the self-styled patriots. When M. de Freycinet resigned and was succeeded by M. Goblet at the end of 1886, General Boulanger retained his portfolio, but after the fall of M. Goblet there was no place found for him in the cabinet of the new government. He then accepted the departure of the general to Clermont-Ferrand amid every demonstration of popular enthusiasm, and his subsequent somewhat mysterious return to Paris in blue spectacles—an incident which led to his name being struck off the Army List. Although he was now only a civilian, he was a formidable enough figure, owing to the fact that his personality formed a rallying point for every discontented party and section of France, and his triumph at the polls in 1888, when he entered the Chamber, pledged to a programme of "revision of the constitution," was followed by a slight but successful tour in the department of the Nord, where he was everywhere received with excitement and applause.

His DUEL. With M. Floquet, in which the general was defeated by a civilian, and by a man whom he himself had previously referred to as "an usher," struck the first blow at his popularity. But the cloud seemed after a time to pass away, and for some months an uneasy feeling prevailed that Boulanger had only to stretch out his hand to obtain supreme power in France. That he failed to do so may be assigned either to a lack of courage or to his hesitation to cross the Rubicon and set his country ablaze with a novel coup d'état; but, as we now know, his fall was principally due to the energetic determination of M. Constans to crush the conspirator before his plans could be matured. The Ligue des Patriotes, which Boulanger had headed, was suppressed, and the national hero himself was placed upon his trial on a charge of perjury, and secretly fled the country when his condemnation was pronounced. It will be within the recollection of most of our readers how M. Boulanger found his first refuge in Brussels, and how he was afterwards expelled from Belgium by the Government. He then fled to London on April 24th, 1889. From that time the steps in his downward career succeeded each other with decisive rapidity. The French general elections in the autumn of 1890 were past and gone, and his native country was past and gone, and every month since that date has added to the demoralisation of his party and the dispersion of his few remaining hopes. From England he went for a time to Jersey, in the company of Madame de Bonnemain (his wife having been deserted by him previously), and from Jersey he went back to Brussels. The death of his companion and the rumours as to his possible expulsion from Brussels brought his name once more into the newspapers, but for all practical purposes General Boulanger had faded from the public memory, and no one paid any heed to the "stricken man whose star, after its fugitive brilliancy, had now set in perpetual gloom." The tragedy of Wednesday forms a fitting close to a career of tumultuous triumphs and theatrical glory.

THE M.P. AND HIS WIFE. The guardians of the Wandsworth and Chelsea Union have again had under consideration the matter of the maintenance of M. Bates Foley, the wife of Mr. P. J. Foley, M.P. for Connamara. Mrs. Foley is an inmate of a lunatic asylum. At the last meeting of the board it was resolved to accept the offer of Mr. Foley's solicitors to pay the sum of 3s. 3d. per week for the cost of the maintenance of his wife, who, as has been, chargeable to the guardians of the union for the past ten years. It was further resolved that Mr. Foley should be required to sign the ordinary form of agreement. The clerk to the guardians, Mr. Henderson, reported the receipt of the guardians, and Mr. Foley's solicitors: "We are in receipt of your last letter, and are considerably surprised at its contents. We offered to pay as a matter of course and necessity. In our opinion the first resolution should be stopped at the word 'accepted,' and the second is cancelled. Our client will comply with the ordinary form of agreement. We have therefore to inform you that so long as these resolutions remain unrecinded, Mr. Foley does not propose to contribute one farthing. If you are anxious to try conclusions in the police court by all means do so. But it will then be for you to justify the rates in refusing an offer which would have relieved the rates to the extent of 12s. 3d. a week. Our client reserves to himself the right of publishing this correspondence, should he consider it necessary." The reading of the letter caused considerable amusement to the guardians. The conclusion, Mr. G. W. Phillips moved: "That the clerk be directed to instruct Mr. H. E. Jones, solicitor, to take such proceedings as he may deem necessary against Mr. P. J. Foley, with the object of compelling him to repay the guardians the cost of his wife's maintenance. The guardians had now been compelled to adopt. The Rev. W. Hamilton seconded the motion, and said that now Mr. Foley had chosen to take this course he would have to suffer for the foolishness of his act. The motion was unanimously agreed to, and the clerk was ordered to forthwith instruct Mr. Jones.

OVERWHELMED WITH ATTENTIONS from all classes of the community." For a short time he was attached to the War Office as director of infantry, a position which he quitted to proceed as general of division in Africa. Then, on January 8th, 1888, M. Freycinet, who was then forming a Cabinet, made him Minister of War, the appointment being regarded as a concession to the power of M. Clemenceau, and as a victory for the Left, with whom the general had been closely connected. He speedily gave proof of his publican sympathies by the energy with which he urged the expulsion of the Princes from France, albeit that he had written, as was afterwards proved, to the Duc d'Aumale, his superior officer, in terms of the warmest gratitude at the time when he had been promoted to the rank of brigadier-general. It was about this period that General Wolsley, speaking at a Horse Guards' mess, referred to Boulanger as follows: "It is evident that the French army has at last found a Minister of War who is working resolutely and passionately, and who has given us more than one excellent example worthy of being followed. He is keeping public opinion in France constantly on the alert; and we may say that he is a source of real anxiety to the Germans. He is not, perhaps, the man of the last button on the gaiter, like one of his imperial predecessors, but he is certainly quite equal to the responsibility of his position, and we can clearly foresee that his country will be indebted to him for the reorganisation of her army." So far his career, although it displayed much of the

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THE WORK OF THE LONDON SCHOOL BOARD.

A REVIEW OF TWENTY YEARS. The London School Board on Thursday resumed its sittings after the holidays; and the chairman (Mr. J. R. Diggle) made his annual statement as to the work done by the board, extending his review to the twenty-one years that have elapsed since the Education Act was passed in 1870. He pointed out that in the period of twenty years the population of London had increased by 28 per cent., and the civic wealth of London by 65 per cent.; so that, whereas in 1871 a precept of 1d. in the pound on rates was sufficient to produce £237,500, in 1891 it produced £1,370,000. The School Board began their work with not a single school under their control. In 1891 they possessed 410 schools, affording an accommodation for 428,000 children. In 1871 it was estimated that there were 104,000 children for whom school places were not provided. In 1891 a school place was provided for every child subject to the law of compulsory attendance. The cost of obtaining this large public school property had been £8,439,000, of which during the same period £1,130,000 had been repaid, leaving an unpaid debt upon this account of £7,309,000. The yearly payments for interest on and rent of this large amount had been £296,500, which was equivalent to a rate of 3d. in the pound of the present rateable value of London.

What effect had the provision of this enormous public school accommodation upon the connection with various religious bodies, and which now formed the system of non-board schools, afforded accommodation for 261,000 children. They now afforded accommodation for 238,000, a decrease under this head of 3,000 school places. The number of children educated in the non-board schools (from 10 to 10,000) was 10,000, a decrease of 10,000. The average attendance had fallen from 173,000 to 162,000, a decrease of 11,000. The experience, therefore, of the last twenty years showed that in London non-board schools not only showed no signs of extension, but were slowly and surely decreasing in number, and almost entirely ceased to exist, and the dames' school had also largely ceased to exist.

During that period, not reckoning the amount of loans repaid, a sum of not less than £12,000,000 had been paid by the ratepayers of London in favour of the maintenance of the schools, and for the general administration of the work of the board. The children who had passed through the schools in these years probably exceeded half a million. During these years there had been an extraordinary diminution of juvenile crime; for, notwithstanding the growth of the population, the number of London children who had been committed to the custody of the juvenile offenders was only 3,872 in 1891, as against 9,998 in 1870. In the matter of school attendance no improvement had taken place. In 1871, out of every 100 children upon the school roll, 78 were in average attendance; and in 1891, of the same number, 77 were in average attendance. He had no doubt that the true cause of irregular attendance lay in the social condition and necessities of wage-earning people; and that the time would come when we should have to consider these necessities more in detail in applying to their children a more rational system of education than we had hitherto attempted to do. For reasons he had never looked upon the abolition of the school fee as in the slightest degree likely to promote regularity of attendance. Indeed, the policy of the earlier school boards for London had a wholly different aim.

He proceeded to ask what were the facts connected with the expenditure of the present board? It was undoubtedly the fact that the total expenditure had increased. Three years ago he stated that the board then about to retire were carrying on their work at the rate of £250,000 a year less than the corresponding expenditure of the preceding board. It was happily now capable of easy verification from the published accounts, and the amount was under £250,000, as he had stated. But he made no claim on behalf of the present board. Comparing the actual expenditure for the year ended 25th March, 1891, with that for the year ended 25th March, 1888, there had been an increase of more than £230,000, of which about £35,000 on account of interest and repairs, and about £195,000 on account of the increase in the number of children, and of that amount £107,000 was due to the increased expenditure upon day and £113,000 to the increased expenditure upon evening schools. He did not think that any increase in the rate of expenditure was either necessary or justifiable; but the ratepayers thought otherwise, or they would not have elected members to the board whose views of expenditure were of a less stringent nature.

CRUELTY TO CHILDREN.

What was described by Dr. Willett, presiding at Brentford Police Court, as one of the most brutal and cowardly attacks upon a defenceless child, which he had ever heard, came before that gentleman and a colleague the other day, when Albert Henry Talbot, of Worton-road, Isleworth, was summoned at the instance of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children for having, between August 1st and September 7th, last, neglected his three children—Edith, aged 31; George, 9; and Alice, 13 years—in such a manner as to cause them unnecessary suffering. Evidence was given showing that in July the defendant's wife went into the Brentford Union Workhouse, where she gave birth to a child, and afterwards became insane. It was alleged that this was in consequence of the defendant's cruelty, and she was removed to a lunatic asylum. An elder girl obtained a situation, but in consequence of her father continually calling at the house and pestering her for money she was compelled to leave. On returning to the home she found the defendant had removed the children from the workhouse, and that her sister Edith had been beaten on the head and face, and was bruised on various parts of the body. Her sister Alice had been driven out of the house by the defendant, who had previously kicked her in the side and hit her when she slept in the open air, with no covering but an old chemise, an old skirt of her sister's, and a ragged ulster. The relieving officer who visited the house found no furniture of any description in the lower room, and in the bedroom only an old iron bedstead and some filthy rags for covers. There was a small quantity of bread. The defendant, who denied the charge, was sentenced to three months' imprisonment.

A CUMBERLAND TRAGEDY.

Mr. William Forster, a farmer at Nichol Forest, Cumberland, was found dead in one of his fields on the 26th of September, shot in the chest. It was ascertained that Mr. Forster had been killed by a day labourer named Armstrong, when the latter was on a poaching expedition. On Sunday two policemen went to arrest Armstrong at his cottage, but found him armed with a double-barrelled gun, which he threatened to use, and they thereupon decided to delay active measures for a while. Later in the day a strong force of constables stormed the cottage. Armstrong was then found dead, having cut his throat.

A DISCOVERY AT ST. BERNARD.

The asylum for the Alpine warfarer (7,000 ft. above the sea level) is said to have been founded A.D. 982 by St. Bernard of Menthon, while, according to some authorities, it rose a century earlier, under Charlemagne. Neither saint nor emperor is likely to make good his claim, as the archives of the hospice have been completely destroyed in two successive conflagrations. But, like other Christian institutions, it had undoubtedly a pagan predecessor. The Romans on the self-same spot built a temple to the Penine Jove, and this, in turn, occupied the site of a still earlier shrine of a local deity, the Alpine passes were in common use from the remotest ages, the Christian world treading the same route which had been trodden by the Romans, who also availed themselves of the track made by the aborigines. At its highest point the tutelary deity had his place of worship, and this was served by the local priesthood, who rendered assistance to the distressed or ailing traveller and received votive tributes in return for its good offices. The existence of a temple of Jupiter on the spot, with its staff of priests, is well known, and the relics that have turned up near it are usually to be traced back to those of the present hospice. A discovery of importance has just been made in its vicinity—a bronze statue in excellent preservation of Jupiter himself. Its artistic value is very great; its height 40 centimetres. At the same time other treasure-trove was brought to the surface, including a number of medals, and a statue of a Roman emperor, 16 centimetres, also of fine workmanship. These are now the property of the monks, and will attract to the hospice a public more able to keep them in funds than the proper recipients of their kindness. Sad to relate, the revenues of the monastery, heavily drawn upon by the upsurge from its usual business, are diminishing, the contributions left by these comfortably accommodated guests being miserably below what, in the majority of cases, they can afford. The heroism of the monks should be remembered by the well-to-do holiday visitor, for the monks of the hospice of St. Bernard, from its foundation in the year of 18 or 19, after fifteen centuries, the severe climate has made old men of them. For eight or nine months out of the twelve they see none but the poorest wayfarers, when the cold is intense, the snow lying deep, the danger from storms incessant and fearful. Their sole companions are the dogs, whose baying is the only sound that breaks the snow wreath under which the buried traveller has so often been rescued and brought to life—dog-like that noble fellow, "Barry," who saved forty men in his time, and who, now, carefully studied, adorns the museum at Bern. The poet laureate of the monks, we are proud to mention, is a medical man, the late Dr. David Macbeth Moir, of Musselburgh (the "Delta" of Blackwood), whose sonnet beginning, "Where these rude rocks on Bern's summit stand," is one of the finest in our language, and translated into Ovidian elegiacs by Dr. Samuel Butler, Bishop of Exeter, forms the gem of the "Arundine Camell."

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A DISCOVERY AT ST. BERNARD.

The asylum for the Alpine warfarer (7,000 ft. above the sea level) is said to have been founded A.D. 982 by St. Bernard of Menthon, while, according to some authorities, it rose a century earlier, under Charlemagne. Neither saint nor emperor is likely to make good his claim, as the archives of the hospice have been completely destroyed in two successive conflagrations. But, like other Christian institutions, it had undoubtedly a pagan predecessor. The Romans on the self-same spot built a temple to the Penine Jove, and this, in turn, occupied the site of a still earlier shrine of a local deity, the Alpine passes were in common use from the remotest ages, the Christian world treading the same route which had been trodden by the Romans, who also availed themselves of the track made by the aborigines. At its highest point the tutelary deity had his place of worship, and this was served by the local priesthood, who rendered assistance to the distressed or ailing traveller and received votive tributes in return for its good offices. The existence of a temple of Jupiter on the spot, with its staff of priests, is well known, and the relics that have turned up near it are usually to be traced back to those of the present hospice. A discovery of importance has just been made in its vicinity—a bronze statue in excellent preservation of Jupiter himself. Its artistic value is very great; its height 40 centimetres. At the same time other treasure-trove was brought to the surface, including a number of medals, and a statue of a Roman emperor, 16 centimetres, also of fine workmanship. These are now the property of the monks, and will attract to the hospice a public more able to keep them in funds than the proper recipients of their kindness. Sad to relate, the revenues of the monastery, heavily drawn upon by the upsurge from its usual business, are diminishing, the contributions left by these comfortably accommodated guests being miserably below what, in the majority of cases, they can afford. The heroism of the monks should be remembered by the well-to-do holiday visitor, for the monks of the hospice of St. Bernard, from its foundation in the year of 18 or 19, after fifteen centuries, the severe climate has made old men of them. For eight or nine months out of the twelve they see none but the poorest wayfarers, when the cold is intense, the snow lying deep, the danger from storms incessant and fearful. Their sole companions are the dogs, whose baying is the only sound that breaks the snow wreath under which the buried traveller has so often been rescued and brought to life—dog-like that noble fellow, "Barry," who saved forty men in his time, and who, now, carefully studied, adorns the museum at Bern. The poet laureate of the monks, we are proud to mention, is a medical man, the late Dr. David Macbeth Moir, of Musselburgh (the "Delta" of Blackwood), whose sonnet beginning, "Where these rude rocks on Bern's summit stand," is one of the finest in our language, and translated into Ovidian elegiacs by Dr. Samuel Butler, Bishop of Exeter, forms the gem of the "Arundine Camell."

What effect had the provision of this enormous public school accommodation upon the connection with various religious bodies, and which now formed the system of non-board schools, afforded accommodation for 261,000 children. They now afforded accommodation for 238,000, a decrease under this head of 3,000 school places. The number of children educated in the non-board schools (from 10 to 10,000) was 10,000, a decrease of 10,000. The average attendance had fallen from 173,000 to 162,000, a decrease of 11,000. The experience, therefore, of the last twenty years showed that in London non-board schools not only showed no signs of extension, but were slowly and surely decreasing in number, and almost entirely ceased to exist, and the dames' school had also largely ceased to exist.

During that period, not reckoning the amount of loans repaid, a sum of not less than £12,000,000 had been paid by the ratepayers of London in favour of the maintenance of the schools, and for the general administration of the work of the board. The children who had passed through the schools in these years probably exceeded half a million. During these years there had been an extraordinary diminution of juvenile crime; for, notwithstanding the growth of the population, the number of London children who had been committed to the custody of the juvenile offenders was only 3,872 in 1891, as against 9,998 in 1870. In the matter of school attendance no improvement had taken place. In 1871, out of every 100 children upon the school roll, 78 were in average attendance; and in 1891, of the same number, 77 were in average attendance. He had no doubt that the true cause of irregular attendance lay in the social condition and necessities of wage-earning people; and that the time would come when we should have to consider these necessities more in detail in applying to their children a more rational system of education than we had hitherto attempted to do. For reasons he had never looked upon the abolition of the school fee as in the slightest degree likely to promote regularity of attendance. Indeed, the policy of the earlier school boards for London had a wholly different aim.

He proceeded to ask what were the facts connected with the expenditure of the present board? It was undoubtedly the fact that the total expenditure had increased. Three years ago he stated that the board then about to retire were carrying on their work at the rate of £250,000 a year less than the corresponding expenditure of the preceding board. It was happily now capable of easy verification from the published accounts, and the amount was under £250,000, as he had stated. But he made no claim on behalf of the present board. Comparing the actual expenditure for the year ended 25th March, 1891, with that for the year ended 25th March, 1888, there had been an increase of more than £230,000, of which about £35,000 on account of interest and repairs, and about £195,000 on account of the increase in the number of children, and of that amount £107,000 was due to the increased expenditure upon day and £113,000 to the increased expenditure upon evening schools. He did not think that any increase in the rate of expenditure was either necessary or justifiable; but the ratepayers thought otherwise, or they would not have elected members to the board whose views of expenditure were of a less stringent nature.

CRUELTY TO CHILDREN.

What was described by Dr. Willett, presiding at Brentford Police Court, as one of the most brutal and cowardly attacks upon a defenceless child, which he had ever heard, came before that gentleman and a colleague the other day, when Albert Henry Talbot, of Worton-road, Isleworth, was summoned at the instance of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children for having, between August 1st and September 7th, last, neglected his three children—Edith, aged 31; George, 9; and Alice, 13 years—in such a manner as to cause them unnecessary suffering. Evidence was given showing that in July the defendant's wife went into the Brentford Union Workhouse, where she gave birth to a child, and afterwards became insane. It was alleged that this was in consequence of the defendant's cruelty, and she was removed to a lunatic asylum. An elder girl obtained a situation, but in consequence of her father continually calling at the house and pestering her for money she was compelled to leave. On returning to the home she found the defendant had removed the children from the workhouse, and that her sister Edith had been beaten on the head and face, and was bruised on various parts of the body. Her sister Alice had been driven out of the house by the defendant, who had previously kicked her in the side and hit her when she slept in the open air, with no covering but an old chemise, an old skirt of her sister's, and a ragged ulster. The relieving officer who visited the house found no furniture of any description in the lower room, and in the bedroom only an old iron bedstead and some filthy rags for covers. There was a small quantity of bread. The defendant, who denied the charge, was sentenced to three months' imprisonment.

A CUMBERLAND TRAGEDY.

Mr. William Forster, a farmer at Nichol Forest, Cumberland, was found dead in one of his fields on the 26th of September, shot in the chest. It was ascertained that Mr. Forster had been killed by a day labourer named Armstrong, when the latter was on a poaching expedition. On Sunday two policemen went to arrest Armstrong at his cottage, but found him armed with a double-barrelled gun, which he threatened to use, and they thereupon decided to delay active measures for a while. Later in the day a strong force of constables stormed the cottage. Armstrong was then found dead, having cut his throat.

LOVE AND CRIME.

No little sensation has been created in military circles, and among the public at large in France, by a terrible tragedy enacted at Courbevoie. About 9 o'clock the other night a tall and well-dressed man, with fair hair and beard, entered a wine shop in the Avenue Marceau in that suburban town, and, after ordering a glass of peppermint water, got into conversation with the landlord. He related that he had come to see a woman who had quitted him, taking with her the sum of 40,000 francs. She was living opposite he added, pointing up to a small house in which Surgeon-major Breton, of the 99th Regiment, was residing. He had rung the bell, but no one had answered the door, yet he was sure that there was some one there, as he heard footsteps. Well, he would wait a little, and make up his mind what to do. The stranger went on talking for a quarter of an hour, when suddenly an individual of middle height and strong build rushed into the shop and glared wildly around him. The man who had been conversing with the landlord turned deadly pale, drew back, and covering his face with his hands, exclaimed that he was done for. Hardly a moment had elapsed when the stranger, drawing a revolver from his pocket, fired at him. Wounded in the breast the stranger sought a refuge in a small room adjoining the shop, but he was speedily followed by his assailant, who discharged another shot at him, and he sank to the ground.

All this had passed with such rapidity that neither the landlord nor his servant had had time to interfere. As they ran to the assistance of the wounded man his murderer rushed out of the house, and, crossing the road to his own dwelling, slammed the door, and was no more seen. The crime was hastily summoned, and a local surgeon was promptly on the spot, but all his efforts to save the victim proved futile, and he breathed his last about an hour afterwards without ever having recovered consciousness. The police had also been communicated with, and as soon as the commissaire of the district found it necessary to go to the scene of the crime, he set to work with all the energy of a man who had been in the habit of establishing his identity, and showed that he was a dentist, named Genisset, about 45 years of age, and in practice at Vincennes. The magistrate then proceeded to the house inhabited by Surgeon-major Breton and found it unoccupied. The bedroom was in a state of the utmost confusion, and it looked as if the doctor, for it was he who had burst into the shop and had fired at Genisset with such fatal effect, had hurried upstairs, selected a few things which were in the chamber, climbed over the wall at the back of the garden, and had fled into the fields beyond.

Pursuing the thread of the story, it was difficult to organise a pursuit with any prospect of an immediate result, but as soon as this was practicable a whole contingent of policemen and detectives were sent out to scour the country. The regiment to which the surgeon-major belonged has only been in the city for two years at Courbevoie. It had been stationed two years at Montargis, when it was called upon to take part in the manoeuvres of the four army corps. M. Breton accompanied the regiment. He is about 35 years of age, is an officer of the Legion of Honour, and had long borne an excellent reputation, being much respected by his comrades. He had retired on a pension very soon. It goes without saying that there was a lady in the case—the person alluded to by Genisset in his conversation with the landlord. "Cherchez les femmes," is a common exclamation with our fellow-countrymen whenever some mystery has to be unravelled, and it was no exception in this case. The woman, who was named as Vincennes, and the pair got on well together for a certain period, but the woman having made the acquaintance of Surgeon-major Breton, who was a very old friend of Genisset, left the latter about three years ago to take up her abode with the doctor, drawn to him by the fact that he was a friend of the woman who had embarked in it. This double desertion preyed much on Genisset's mind. He accused the woman of having stolen the money, and on several occasions he threatened her with a prosecution. Naturally

ARTIFICIAL IVORY.

Attempts have frequently been made to produce a good artificial substitute for ivory, but up to the present without success. A patent has recently been taken out for a process based upon the employment of the materials of which natural ivory is composed, namely, tribasic phosphate of lime, calcium carbonate, magnesia, alumina, gelatine, albumen. By this process, quicklime is first treated with sufficient water to convert it into the hydrate, and the acid is then added, completely hydrated, or slaked, an aqueous solution of phosphoric acid is poured on to it; and, while stirring the mixture, the calcium carbonate, magnesia, and alumina are incorporated in small quantities at a time; and, lastly, the gelatine and albumen dissolved in water are added. The mixture is then set aside to allow the phosphoric acid to complete its action upon the chalk. The following day the mixture, while still plastic, is pressed into the desired form in moulds, and dried in a current of air at a temperature of about 100° F. To imitate the natural preparation of the artificial product by this process, it is kept for three or four weeks, during which time it becomes perfectly hard.

A DISTRESSING SUICIDE.

At the Town Hall, Kensington, Mr. Braxton Hicks has been giving evidence concerning the death of Charles G. Clark, 35, a grocer's assistant, lately residing at 24, Neville-street, Fulham-road. Mrs. Fanny Clark, the widow, said that three years ago her husband had been an inmate of the Hanwell Lunatic Asylum. He then had a tendency to destroy his life. After a confinement of six months he was discharged as cured. Witness had since then had great anxiety with regard to him, especially lately. He used to fret and cry, and say that he was a person specially sent from God. He had told witness that he should not be long in this world. She did not think from that that he was going to commit suicide. On the 25th ult.

RETURN OF JAMES STEPHENS.
Some sensation was caused in Dublin

Monday by the arrival of James Stephens, the founder of the Fenian movement, after twenty-six years' outlawry in France and Belgium. Stephens, who had been a successful escapee, attracted attention, and arrived in London on the evening of September 26th, at which time he was met by a couple of friends and drove to a house which had been taken over by him. He crossed over in the same boat as Mr. Parnell, but although the two men had been associates in the Fenian movement, they had never met. The *United Ireland* published a special issue on Monday afternoon, in which it stated that Mr. Stephens' spirit is unchanged. In an interview with a representative of the journal, he gave his views very freely on the present controversy in Ireland, and on the circumstances that the majority of Irishmen appear to have elected to try constitutional agitation at present, and I see no reason why I should pursue a dog-in-the-manger policy. If this Parliamentary agitation leads up to any benefits to Ireland, I, of course, would be glad to see them. But the local benefits especially connected with the land have been won by agitation of the past ten years. It is very clear to me that the division in the Irish party has precipitated a crisis, at which a party will require to know what form the Home Rule or local self-government should take from the British Government, and also what sacrifice of national principle would be necessary to obtain that concession. Even in Parliamentary work I consider that the Irish representatives should be indissolubly bound to a British party or a British leader. I will even say freely that the spirit of independence is not a good thing. The spirit of Parnell is in accordance with my own ideas of what is called constitutionalism. I have no more faith than I ever had in promises of either British party."

THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT
The Press Association is informed that
has been definitely decided that the Duke
Connaught will next spring relinquish
command of the Portsmouth district in or
to succeed Sir Frederick Roberts as o
mandar-in-chief in India.

DR. ROOKE'S SOLAR ELIXIR

DR. ROOKE'S	is of inestimable service in	ELIXIR
DR. ROOKE'S	the Relief and Cure of Indis-	ELIXIR
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DR. ROOKE'S	matism, Gout, Scrofula,	ELIXIR
DR. ROOKE'S	General Debility, and all	ELIXIR
DR. ROOKE'S	Disorders of the Nervous	ELIXIR
DR. ROOKE'S	System, whether arising from	ELIXIR
DR. ROOKE'S	a sedentary mode of life,	ELIXIR
DR. ROOKE'S	unhealthy occupation, in-	ELIXIR
DR. ROOKE'S	temperatures climate, or any	ELIXIR
DR. ROOKE'S	other cause proceed.	ELIXIR

WRITING, July 12th, 1891, the Rev. A. PARKER
Leyton, Essex.

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have never taken them without great benefit, and in num-

cases where I have recommended them, by its results have always been productive of good results."

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DR. ROOKE'S food and unhealthy ac-
DR. ROOKE'S cumulations, quickly relieving
DR. ROOKE'S every complaint connected
DR. ROOKE'S therewith, such as Indigestion
DR. ROOKE'S and Pains in the Head,
DR. ROOKE'S Constipation, Biliousness,
DR. ROOKE'S Frequent Sickness, Acidity
DR. ROOKE'S or Heartburn, Dropsies, &c.
DR. ROOKE'S Taken at Night, Offenders
DR. ROOKE'S Break Pills, &c. &c. For
DR. ROOKE'S FEMALE COMPLAINTS they
stand unrivalled, and have
often been known to fail.

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LUNG TONIC,
THE MIGHTY HEALER.

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It cures the most exhausted, or inclined to be Consumptive, with such a touch of Cough and Weakness, that
"Try this wonderful Medicine."
The Cough and Weakness will disappear as if by magic, and the strength and power you never had before.

HAVE YOU A COUGH?
A DOSE WILL RELIEVE IT.
HAVE YOU A COLD?
A DOSE AT BEDTIME WILL REMOVE IT.

BRONCHITIS AND ASTHMA IT RELIEVES INSTANTLY.

The Spasms of Coughing, so dreadful in Whooping Cough, because less with each dose of the medicine.

"I always had some prejudice against giving patent medicines, but your Lung Tonic has removed that misgiving. Suffering from a severe cold, I bought a bottle of your preparation, being in a dilemma as to the loss of my voice. I was strongly persuaded to try it, as it was so highly recommended to my most agreeable nurse, and after taking a few doses, I was relieved with far less loss of my voice."

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LONDON.
Painkiller free on application.

"THE PEOPLE" MIXTURE.

Eight little infants were last week in London suffocated in bed.

There were 2,559 births and 1,323 deaths registered in London last week.

Forty deaths in London last week were attributed to accident or negligence.

There were four cases of suicide—a comparatively small number—in London last week.

It is when a man is in the iron grip of poverty that his clothes begin to rust.

After his first love affair a young man may be said to have cut his teeth.

Strangely enough it is the girl with an angular form who fails to catch her fish.

Strange that the fashionable surgeon should retain his popularity, when he so frequently cuts his friends.

It must not be supposed that all the advocates of "signed articles" are in sympathy with pugilistic performances.

Mr. Frederick Bodenham, clerk of the peace of Hereford city, and a member of the Herefordshire C.C., has died from paralysis of the brain.

There is, lady readers may be assured, a decided tendency in fashionable circles to return to the becoming princess bonnet, which fits closely to the head.

The fashion of fur-trimmed dresses is likely to find favour during the coming winter, especially since its adoption by Miss Ada Behan in the dresses worn by her in "The Last Word."

P. D. Armour, the Yankee millionaire, is said to be the largest individual commercial operator in the world. Last year his business reached an aggregate of some twelve millions sterling.

Suicide is very rare in the European armies among the men who have been sentenced to different terms of imprisonment, but is frequent among the men awaiting trial by court martial.

It is averred that Sir A. Harris, during his recent visit to Craig-y-Nos Castle, offered to Madame Patti £200 a night for a small number of performances at Covent Garden next season.

The forest areas of Germany are returned as follows:—Prussia, 6,000,000 acres; Bavaria, 2,800,000 acres; Wurtemberg, 470,000 acres; Saxony, 416,000 acres; and Baden, 235,000 acres.

In 1889 the total extent of railway line existing in the world amounted to 285,797 kilometres, and of that length the United States possessed 259,687 kilometres, or very little short of one-half.

A proclamation is published in the *Gazette* further proroguing Parliament from the 20th of October to Thursday, the 10th of December. The convocations of Canterbury and York are prorogued to the 11th of December.

Mr. John Morley has accepted the invitation of the president of the Manchester Reform Club, Sir Henry Roscoe, to be the guest of the club on Monday, the 20th of October, and to deliver an address to the members.

The Speaker's notice of his intention to issue his warrant to the clerk of the Crown to make out a new writ for the election of a member to serve in Parliament for the University of Cambridge, at the end of six days, appears in last night's *Gazette*.

At the Spalding Police Court, Robert Wellbourne, living near Spalding, was sent to prison for robbing his wife.

The prisoner stole some fowl belonging to his wife, with whom he had not been living for some years.

Some sensation has been produced in Berlin by the appearance of an article in the *Frankfurter Volksblatt*, a Catholic paper, published at Wuerzburg, proposing the disintegration of the German empire and the re-establishment of the presidency of the Emperor of Austria.

The figures as to the number of passengers carried by the United States railways in a year resemble more the tremendous totals with which astronomical lecturers are wont to tickle the ears of the groundlings than any real business event; the total for 1890 being 820,439,082.

Miss Ellen Terry has started a curious fashion in gloves at Bristol. During the entertainments given in her honour at the place where her earlier successes were won, Miss Terry wore long black gloves, keeping them on all the time. The fashion, if adopted, will have a somewhat depressing effect in a large company of ladies.

A movement has been started to raise funds for the restoration of the interesting thirteenth century church of Oake, Somerset. Among the subscribers are the Bishop of Bath and Wells, the Dean of Wells, Archdeacon Canon, Canon, Mr. A. P. Allport, M.P. for the County of Dorset, Mr. J. H. Duncombe, Lady Oslender, the Hon. Mrs. Holmes a Court, and Lady Glass.

At a meeting held in the Cardiff Town Hall it was resolved to publicly commemorate the distinguished services of the Marquis of Bute to Cardiff during the year of his majority. It is proposed to erect a statue in his lordship's honour, and a desire was expressed that the trade unions and friendly societies should co-operate with the representative committee appointed to carry out the scheme.

The two ladies who last week entered the lake at Clissold Park up to their armpits in order to save two children who had been thrown into the water from a runaway perambulator, have been ascertained to be Mrs. A. H. Baxter, of 46, Ladbroke-road, and Miss Hobson, of 44, Ladbroke-road, in Park Square, both ladies having been rescued from the immersion, but not seriously, and the children have now recovered.

The mystery relating to the death of a Liverpool visitor to Matlock is supposed to have been dispelled by the discovery of the skeleton of a man at the base of the High Tor, a rock rising 400ft. above the valley of the River Derwent. Very little remains except the bones and the hat and boots. Twelve months ago a visitor was reported missing, and he was last seen in the neighbourhood of the rock.

Ladies may be interested in a description of the wonderful Japanese tea gown worn by Miss Ada Behan in the second act of "The Last Word." It is of flame-coloured satin, embroidered with gold and coloured floss. The bodice opens over a full waistcoat, pulled cleverly of white silk muslin, and is clasped at the waist with a huge carbuncle set in diamonds. The whole is veiled in soft grey crepe, pulled in on the shoulders and at the waist, and the beautiful beauty of the underdress seen only when the wearer suddenly throws up her arms in one of her most effective scenes.

"One Sunday," recently remarked Mr. Chauncey Depue, the well-known American orator, "I traversed the Whitechapel district, and saw a sight it is impossible to see anywhere else in the world. Such poverty, such misery, such wretchedness, such a seething furnace of ignorance and all the attendant evils, I never saw before and never expect to see again. I felt that that great city, with its magnificent palaces, with every evidence in part of it of the largest wealth and the greatest luxury, rests upon a volcano which only needs the force of civilisation to loosen

upon it, and produce a catastrophe which would shroud the world."

William Black, the socialist, is a keen golfer.

Mr. John Dillon's hair became very grey during his last imprisonment.

Mr. George Meredith is at present exclusively devoting himself to poetry.

A Madrid tramway company has decided to adopt electric traction in preference to using horses.

It is a noteworthy fact that the suicides in the French Army are nearly double what they were two years ago.

"I have no more intention of giving up cricket," writes Mr. G. Grace, "than I had twenty years ago."

Mr. H. A. Jones's new play is a story of modern London life. The action, it is said, is confined to the metropolis and its suburbs.

A recent visitor from Chicago, who went all over Whitechapel, said he had seen nothing in it so bad as to be found in some parts of Chicago.

Princess Helena of Montenegro, who, rumour has it, is to be betrothed to the boy King of Serbia, will celebrate her 19th birthday in January next.

Since the majority of Sir Thomas White's chief magistrates has so large a number of nominations to the City Lieutenancy as the present Lord Mayor.

At this moment there are hundreds of tons of plums within a circuit of forty miles of London which are going to waste because it will not pay to bring them to market.

Stated in the broadest possible way, the United States possesses 100,000 miles of railway more than the mileage throughout the entire empire of Great Britain.

The parents of Miss Mary Adams, of Woodland, California, refused to assent to her marriage with John Montgomery. The refusal had a tragic sequel. Montgomery killed both the girl and himself.

The Rev. John M'Neill has been telling the Chicago people what he thinks of their city:—"It is not only impressed me, but depressed me. There is room there for any amount of preaching."

The question of providing sleeping accommodation for third class passengers on the long journey of the East Coast route is under the consideration of the directors of the Great Northern Railway Company.

Thirty-three countries are participating in the Salvation Army "week of self-denial," which, during the single week, is likely to produce no less than £40,000, nearly half of which will be contributed in the United Kingdom.

Henry Altmeyer, of St. Louis, was drunk when he met Henry Oleff. A word or two was exchanged, and then Oleff fell dead. Altmeyer, sobered by his terrible deed, Altmeyer, in a moment of remorse, ended his own life.

At the South Queensferry end of the Forth Bridge on Tuesday afternoon three men were blown by a sudden gust of wind from a staging to the ground, falling a distance of 150ft. Two of the men were killed on the spot, and the third died a few minutes afterwards.

In the Austrian Army there have been, on the average, 131 suicides per 100,000 men during the last five years. The suicides were equal to a fifth of the total mortality of the Army during this period, and more deaths were due to this than to typhoid fever, pneumonia, or consumption.

It is still possible to buy adownies—and at a very reduced price. At East Dereham two Norfolk rookeries were thus disposed of at about one year's purchase of their stipends. One, which was sold for £450, although its income from tithes is nominally £450, is said to have cost £25,000 twenty-seven years ago.

The other night a burglary was committed in the chateau of Moncontour, near Vouvry, in Touraine, which belongs to M. Königswarter, a banker of Paris. All the plate in the chateau was stolen, and the burglar is still at liberty with his booty, the value of which is estimated at £22,400.

The Board of Agriculture have modified the provisions of the muzzling order in the county of Hants and in the boroughs of Southampton, Bournemouth, Portsmouth, and Winchester, whereby the muzzling of dogs is rendered unnecessary provided the animals have on collars upon which are engraved the names and addresses of their owners.

Seventeen bookmakers were arrested on the Longchamps raccourse. Among them were four Germans, one of whom, on being apprehended, threw all the money he had about him among the crowd, exclaiming, "The Government shall not have the money, anyhow." There being several gold coins among the money thus thrown, the crowd swooped down on them, and they disappeared like magic.

A fatal boat accident occurred at Ilfracombe on Tuesday. Frederick Davis and William Barbearay went out in the Solina to pilot the steamer Carnow, of Hoyle, into harbour. A strong wind was blowing at the time. The Carnow, however, did not require their services, and the two men allowed their boat to be towed in by the steamer. The towing rope broke, and the Solina was capsized. Barbearay was picked up by another boat, but Davis, who was a cripple, sank and was drowned.

A large bazaar is to be held in London next month, under the auspices of Princess Mary, Duchess of Teck, in order to pay off the debt occasioned by enlarging the club premises in the Morley Rooms, John-street, Bedford-row, established for the accommodation of girls engaged in restaurant or bar work and having no home in the metropolis. Lady Edith Ashley, Lady Kinnaird, and Lady Wolverson are members of the committee. The club is doing a great deal of good among the class for whose benefit it is intended.

Mrs. De Courcy, in presiding over a meeting of laundresses in the Bell-street Laundry Club, Edgeware-road, drew a wonderful picture of the hard lot of those who are attached to the wash tub. She declared that the majority of people in London were absolutely unaware of the terrible conditions under which laundresses laboured. A resolution, asking the Government to include the laundresses under the Factory Act, was moved by Mrs. Roberts, seconded by Mrs. Hutchings, and carried unanimously.

When the London County Council re-assembled on Tuesday after the recess, Sir John Lubbock, who presided, announced that next month he intended to place his resignation in the hands of the clerk. Sir John stated that his resignation was partly on private grounds, but also because he thought the chairman should hold office, not by technical right, but by the wish and support of his colleagues, and that the office should be annual. Sir T. Farrer, the vice-chairman, also announced that he intended to resign for the same reasons.

The estate of Duxbury, near Chorley, celebrated as the home of Miles Standish, made famous by Longfellow, has been the scene of a free fight for the possession of the mansion. An old man, named Hall, of Wigan, claims possession in lineal descent of Frank Hall Standish, who died at Cadix in 1841. The claimant asserts that he has been kept out of the property by fraud. He managed, by stratagem, to get possession of the hall on Monday night, but was, with his supporters,

quickly ousted by the farmers and labourers. Litigation is expected to follow.

The advocates of nicotine claim that in the great epidemics of 1832 and 1847 not one single tobaccoist, either in London or Paris, died of Asiatic cholera.

The records of the Scots Greys, the colonelcy of which has just become vacant, include all of Marlborough's battles, as well as Waterloo and those of the Crimea.

Sir J. Gorst was impressed with what he saw in a tour to Ireland that he wants time to think the subject out before giving his full impressions to the public.

We had thought that influenza had been banished from London. However, the registrar-general reports that last week there were four deaths in the metropolis from this cause.

The new free library at Newton Heath was formally opened by the mayor of Manchester, Mr. J. W. Southern, chairman of the Public Free Libraries Committee, and other gentlemen took part in the ceremony.

Mr. Percival, Sir Dillon Bell's successor as agent-general for New Zealand in London, is the grand nephew of Mr. Spencer Percival, the Prime Minister who was assassinated in the House of Commons by Bellingham.

There is bad news for sardine eaters; the nimble fish is getting scarce. But there is no need for alarm among sardine merchants, as the sea is still as good and as many sprats in the sea as ever came out of it.

Competition is keen in the local politics of the States. A candidate for a county clerkship in Texas recently offered to register marriages gratis, whereupon his rival agreed to do the same—with a cradle thrown in.

It is calculated that one-third of the crime committed in London is perpetrated on Saturdays and Sundays, and the day on which most London workers draw their weekly supply of the root of all evil.

Among the inmates of the Metropolitan Asylum at Caterham is an old man named Samuel Gibson, 101 years of age, and in fairly good health. He served with the 27th Lankashire in the Peninsula and at Waterloo.

When Logan Murphy, of Salterville, Kentucky, who had shot his wife, was arrested, he exclaimed "that he had quarrelled with his father over a trivial matter, and that his father had threatened his life."

The returns issued by the Isle of Man harbour commissioners show that during August 112,357 persons were disembarked at Douglas, as against 111,500 in August last year.

The Princess of Wales presented her mother on her birthday with a luxurious settee, ornamented with very artistic embroidery, and the princess sent her a charming little antique watch of porcelain.

The Electrical Review is agitating for the introduction of universal time. The importance of this would be more apparent if it were not for the fact that while one-half of the world is all animation the other half is fast asleep.

More aristocratic traders. There is said to be in St. James's count engaged in making money-traps a marquis who gets his living on an omnibus "mile-board," and a bathing-machine attendant who is both a count and a marquis.

Mr. J. Zanwill, whose "Bachelors Club," issued in June, is now in a fifth edition, will commence a pendant to that book, entitled "The Old Maids' Club," in the next number of *Ariel*. It will be illustrated by Mr. F. H. Townsend.

The Dowager Baroness De Ros—mother of General Lord De Ros—the venerable lady who was present at the ball in Brussels on the eve of the battle of Waterloo, was born on September 30th, 1795, and therefore completed her 96th year last Wednesday.

The subscriptions to the fund for raising a suitable memorial to the late Rev. Henry White, the chaplain of the Savoy, amount to £12,000. The last donor was Mr. J. H. Toole, who was in Australia when Mr. White died.

At the Home Office in Whitehall fire has been kept burning all through the summer. Without some such arrangement the rooms, especially those on the ground floor, would be so damp and stuffy as to be almost uninhabitable.

Born Albert Morris, coloured, was hanged in Savannah, he headed the reporter's written paper. In this he confessed to killing his first wife in 1889 and his second wife in April last. Both murders were committed through jealousy.

According to Mr. A. Otley, "the builders of London are the biggest scamps in the whole of England." Perhaps Mr. Otley alluded to the jury builder, and meant to say "scampers," not scamps. At any rate it is characterised to suppose he did.

M. Rubinstein's new opera, to which the flashing touches are now being put, is entitled "The Gipsies," and is based upon the Russian poem bearing that name. In all probability it will be translated into German, and will first be heard at one of the German operas.

Prince Christian Victor of Schleswig-Holstein has earned his first mention in despatches. He served as orderly officer to Major-general Ellis in the Black Mountain expedition, and he has been commended by his late chief for the zeal he displayed in the discharge of his duties.

A hotel "for women only" is to be started by a syndicate of New York ladies, the idea being to afford perfect quiet and seclusion for ladies who are in the way. A few of the inmates are likely to be on speaking terms after about the first week, this object should be easily attained.

Mr. Thibault-Dyer, director of Kew Gardens, has had the honorary degree of doctor of philosophy conferred upon him by the Leopoldinisch-Karolinisch German Academy of Natural History at Halle, in recognition of the services he has rendered to botany.

James Hart, a wealthy stockman, was shot and killed in his bed at Oswego, Kansas. His wife says she was asleep when the shot was fired, and does not know who committed the crime. When Hart married her, fifteen months ago, she was the widow of John Fisher, who had been mysteriously murdered a short time before.

A Bombay paper states that a man who was formerly a guard on the East India Railway, and who became the eighth Earl of Miltown. The man, it is stated, is descended from the third Earl. John Lowther, who expects to become an earl, has sent the necessary papers to the Miltown family solicitor to establish his claim, and he expects that his right to the title will be undisputed.

Among the latest yarns from the Far West are two wonderful "sneaking" stories. There is a man at Chicago who lays down and sheds his skin regularly every July, and a lady living at Parrotville, Tenn., who has spent quite a large proportion of what might have been made a useful career in shedding her bones.

The reader will shed a tear for the lamentable imaginativeness of the Western journalist. Sir William Harcourt, who is paying a visit to his constituents at Derby, was present at the annual meeting of the Derby Claims Association. In his speech he dealt with the prospects of the Liberals in the approaching general election, the pacification of Ireland, the eight hours' agitation, Welsh disestablishment, free education and popular control, and the testimony borne to the soundness of

Liberal principles by their adoption by the Tories.

Mr. Parrell is said to be engaged on a record of his political adventures. The Free Methodist possess General property to the extent of £277,630.

The Conservative and Unionist electors of Cambridge University will select their candidate on Tuesday.

Sixteen of the London casual wards are now regularly visited by fully authorised officials of the Church Army.

A tunnel in course of construction near Asti has fallen in, burying twenty-one persons, of whom four are believed to have been killed.

The assessment rolls of New York city show real estate 1,464,247,300dols., and personal property 251,500,000dols. This is 90,000,000dols. more than last year.

Belgium has 5,500 schools, but 138,000 drinking shops. For public instruction it spends £600,000, while for intoxicating liquor it squanders £2,400,000.

Between ninety and 100 candidates attended at the entrance examination of studentship at the Royal Academy of Music for this coming term (Michaelmas).

The new under-secretary of Foreign Affairs, Mr. James W. Lowther, married a daughter of Mr. Hereford-Hope, and he is consequently related to Lord Salisbury by marriage.

The Rev. Charles Mercer, of Homestead, Wiltshire, has succeeded from the Church of England and joined the Baptists. Work has been found for him in the metropolis.

Licence-holders have fallen on evil days in Wales. At Pontypridd, among other licences refused, was one for an hotel which had cost £25,000, while the upholding had cost another £25,000.

"The wild woman," says Mrs. Lynn Lynton, "is a social insect; for the wild woman allows us a monopoly in sports, in games, in responsibilities."

A scientific writer argues that in another thousand years we shall all be bald. Some of us—that is, the re-incarnations of us—may be able to congratulate the scientist on the accuracy of his tip.

In a sweeping condemnation of vivisection, Bishop Moorhouse has declared that he would do a hundred deaths rather than live in a house where the experiments which are wholly unlawful and pagan in conception and execution.

Tom Mann holds that religion and labour are inseparable, and that the bettering of the condition of the working classes is one of the most commendable duties of Christians, either individually or collectively as a church.

The Rev. Theodore Wood maintains that the sparrow is the enemy of injurious grubs, and that during the breeding season each pair destroys on an average 33,600 insects of one kind or another as food for their callow brood.

The net increase in the revenue for the quarter ending September 30th, compared with the corresponding quarter of last year, is £36,397. The principal augmentations are £203,900 under the head of Excise, £75,000 in stamps, £50,000 from the Post Office, and £48,379 in Customs.

Wherever he gets a footing, the sparrow becomes master of the situation. Although introduced into the United States in 1838, he ravages thirty-seven States and six territories, comprising an area of 885,000 square miles, and in Canada he is familiar over 100,000 square miles of territory.

The Boulanger funds were all spent in elections or recklessly squandered. His first stay in Brussels and London cost over £40,000. Another £40,000 was frittered away in the *Cecile*, the *Presse*, and lastly in the *Paris*. He is now only genuine Boulanger print.

Boulanger was five times wounded—at Turbigo, where a ball entered his chest just below his heart; at Solferino, where he was shot completely through the body; at Champigny, during the Franco-German war; in Paris, during the Commune; and in his duel with M. Floquet.

Gratitude is a virtue which sometimes takes strange forms. An Indian, an indentured labourer, once a patient of the Royal Free Hospital in Soho-square, is so grateful for the treatment that he received that he has written to that institution offering to bequeath to them his mortal framework for the purposes of scientific investigation.

Private Bell, of the North Stafford Regiment, met with a tragic death at Portland on Tuesday. He had been punished with 50 days' confinement for desertion. It is supposed that while trying to break out of barracks on Monday he fell over the ramparts into the Verne Ditch, a depth of about fifty feet. He was taken to the hospital, and died the next day.

Recently a lady member of the congregation of St. Alban's, Teddington, offered £1,000 towards the building fund of the church on condition that the Sunday evening service should be given to the "free and open air." The vicar took a poll of the seat-holders on the subject, with the result that all but a few old-fashioned pew-renters approved of the change.

Boulanger was undeniably a brave man. Coming to a courtyard in which a number of Communards had taken refuge, Colonel Boulanger (as he was then) opened the wicket, and stepping in, received a volley, one of the balls striking his right wrist and passing out at the elbow. He was taken to the hospital, and died the next day.

The Central goods train was standing upon the line at Audubon Park, New York, when a cattle train going at the rate of thirty-five miles an hour crashed into it. A *Dalsiel's* telegram states that six cattle cars were telescoped and thrown into the river, mangled and killing the animals, while the engine and nine cars of the goods train were also precipitated into the river.

A robbery took place at the Thames Police Court on Wednesday. The officials receive their cheques for their salary on the last day of each month, and on Wednesday these were given out as usual. The office-keeper had occasion to enter the clerks' room, and while there was called out for a few minutes. In his hurry he left behind his pocket-book, containing two £5 notes and his cheque. On his return he found the pocket-book and contents had been stolen.

A scheme of naval re-organization, which it has taken more than twelve months to elaborate, came into operation on Thursday. Henceforth most of the home ports will be required to keep in reserve a number of ships of various types ready for sea at a few hours' notice. These reserve fleets will be under the command of the admirals of the respective ports, and each ship will carry one-third of the normal commissioned complement, the admiral being personally responsible for the efficiency of the men.

Balmaceda has been described as "a cocktail of Scotch cannibals, Indian savagery, and Spanish courtesy." When Spaniards and French and Indians were squabbling in a dining room of the Hotel de Ville, Balmaceda was there. They were made prisoners, and sent up country. They broke through the guard lines and scaled the Andes peaks, settling in a strange white land called Tchile. When Snowland became Chilli and civilised government was instituted, the half-Indian, Scotch-

men became of much importance. From these Balmacedas descended.

Dr. Pigou, dean of Chichester, has been appointed to the deanery of Bristol.

When discussing matters with a bee, never insist on coming to the point.

There were 122 deaths in the metropolis last week from diseases of the respiratory organs.

"You are fit to go anywhere and do anything," said the Duke of Cambridge to the Scots Fusiliers.

Mr. Gladstone weighs 11st., and Sir William Harcourt 18st. They are the heavy weights of the Liberal party.

A telegram from Burgos (Spain) states that Mr. Cotton has died as the result of the recent railway accident.

Glasgow lady has not made a sum of £50,000 in order to erect a convalescent home as a memorial to her brother.

The remains of the late Grand Duchess Paul were interred in the Cathedral of St. Peter and Paul, at St. Petersburg.

The condition of the Queen of Romania is said to be satisfactory, but her Majesty's sleep is disturbed by pains at the back of the neck.

The Queen has approved the appointment of the Earl of Dartmouth to be lord-lieutenant of Staffordshire, in succession to his father, lately deceased.

Mr. George H. Putnam, who ought to know something about it, says that literary labour is less remunerative than any other kind of skilled labour in the market.

Mr. W. H. Smith's condition continues to improve, and if this improvement is maintained the right hon. gentleman will proceed shortly to the south of France.

Twenty-one men were buried by the collapse of a railway tunnel at Oradea (Italy) on Tuesday night. Seventeen of the men were extricated alive.

The Rev. G. W. Garrod, B.A., secretary of St. John's College, Battersea, has been appointed principal of the Ripon and Wakefield Diocesan Training College.

The revenue of the United Kingdom for the past half-year shows an increase of £311,892 as compared with the corresponding half-year of 1890.

The licensing justices of the petty sessions division of Cerne Abbas, Dorset, decided, in answer to appeals from the clergy and others, to reduce the number of licensed houses, and refused to renew the licences.

The revenue of the United Kingdom for the half year ending September 30th amounted to £41,889,583, compared with £41,377,076 in the corresponding half-year of last year—an increase of £511,892.

The Earl of Mount Edgumbe opened a working men's club at Downberry, and speaking of the rapid development of State educational efforts dwell on the increased responsibilities it imposes on all classes.

St. Irvyn borough magistrates, at their adjourned licensing sessions, renewed the five licences they withheld at the annual sessions, on the understanding that a number of six days' licences will be applied for next year.

Mr. Eardley Wilmut, eldest son of Sir Eardley Wilmut, formerly M.P. for South Warwickshire, is named as one of the new County Court judges about to be appointed. Mr. Wilmut has frequently served as deputy for Mr. Courtney Kerr.

Several instances are reported in Kent where fruit trees are re-blossoming while actually bearing fruit. At Dover there are two laburnum trees with their golden blossoms in full bloom.

A Berlin correspondent understands that negotiations are in progress with a view to the formation of the German and Swiss railway administrations to join the German Railway Union.

According to a Valparaiso correspondent, several papers there comment in bitter terms on the action of the British Minister in connection with the shipment of silver on board the *Epigale*, and claim that this should constitute a full indemnity on this account as soon as practicable.

The Canadian Parliament was prorogued on Wednesday by the governor-general, who stated that the Government had decided to propose a commission to inquire into the recent scandals. Subsequently there was an interesting discussion on the right of the Government to negotiate independent treaties of commerce.

Mr. Evans, M.P., chairman of the Union Steamship Company, speaking at Southampton, said the duty of the representatives and press of Plymouth was to do their best for the town, but they must go further afield before they would get the Union Company's ships to stop there.

The Earl gave the Queen of Denmark her 74th birthday a fan of tortoiseshell, covered with diamonds, two superb malachite vases, and a quantity of priceless black lace interwoven with diamonds. The Empress gave a splendid set of furs, a rug of cloth-of-gold, and a diamond and ruby bracelet.

At Newington Vestry the other evening, in answer to Mr. Goggy, the surveyor said "the vestry had never ordered him to prepare a map of the house drainage of the parish; and that 2,535 gullies had not been cleaned for two months previous to the 23rd September, 1891."

VOLUNTEER GOSSIP.

Comment on the fact that the Volunteer Engineers have been working hard for the past few weeks, and that they have been successful in their efforts to raise a large sum of money for the purchase of a new gun for the Volunteer Engineers. The gun is a 6-inch gun, and it is a very fine gun. It is a gun that will be of great use to the Volunteer Engineers, and it is a gun that will be a great asset to the Volunteer Engineers. The gun is a gun that will be a great asset to the Volunteer Engineers, and it is a gun that will be a great asset to the Volunteer Engineers.

GENERAL BOOTH.

General Booth, the founder of the Salvation Army, has been in the city for some time. He has been very busy with his work, and he has been very successful in his efforts to help the poor. He has been very busy with his work, and he has been very successful in his efforts to help the poor. He has been very busy with his work, and he has been very successful in his efforts to help the poor.

SOCIETY GOSSIP.

The Society of Friends, or Quakers, have been very busy with their work. They have been very busy with their work, and they have been very successful in their efforts to help the poor. They have been very busy with their work, and they have been very successful in their efforts to help the poor. They have been very busy with their work, and they have been very successful in their efforts to help the poor.

PERSONAL (Continued).

Personal news and gossip from the city. Includes mentions of various individuals and their activities. Personal news and gossip from the city. Includes mentions of various individuals and their activities. Personal news and gossip from the city. Includes mentions of various individuals and their activities.

OFFICIAL SITUATIONS (Continued).

Official news and reports from the city. Includes mentions of government activities and official appointments. Official news and reports from the city. Includes mentions of government activities and official appointments. Official news and reports from the city. Includes mentions of government activities and official appointments.

SITUATIONS VACANT (Continued).

Advertisements for various job openings and vacancies. Includes positions in different industries and professions. Advertisements for various job openings and vacancies. Includes positions in different industries and professions. Advertisements for various job openings and vacancies. Includes positions in different industries and professions.

BUSINESSES, &c. (Continued).

Advertisements for various businesses and services. Includes mentions of shops, restaurants, and other commercial establishments. Advertisements for various businesses and services. Includes mentions of shops, restaurants, and other commercial establishments. Advertisements for various businesses and services. Includes mentions of shops, restaurants, and other commercial establishments.

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DR. HENRY'S EXCITATION STICK is the
inimitable Curative for the Female Men-
struation can retain it. Marvelous success.
It is sent free to any address, in the packet first
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THE GREAT FEMALE REMEDY
DR. RECORD'S Female Pills, invaluable to
the married or single. Prepared from a recipe
celebrated throughout the world. It is
the best for all obstructions and irregularities,
never fails to produce the desired effect. Price
and 6s. 6d. per box; 6s. 6d. per box, and 6s. 6d.
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endon, Finsbury, London, E.C. 4. Advice free.

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NAMES BAYLEY'S World-renowned **SPE-**

will speedily correct all irregularities, no matter how obstinate. This is a genuine preparation

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INFALLIBLE REMEDY for all Obstructions and Painful Menstruation. Does not cause nausea or vomiting. Price 1/6. Sold by all Chemists and Druggists.

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